



Club Newsletter

Member Profile. W. David Walls

Q: Born and grew up in?

A: Grew up in Toronto, born in a small town in the area. Moved to the US in 1978 and became a citizen in 2000, a millennium project.

Q: Interests?

A: Interests are hard to list. Love "serious" music (jazz and what many refer to as "classical"), avidly follow current affairs, have been pretty active in bicycle racing, love riding the bicycle as well as the motorcycle. Love to read. Am pretty solitary.

Q: Current bike(s)?

Current motor is a Ducati Multistrada 1200. Bought this in mid June and have yet to receive a plate for it. After concurrently owning 2 motors determined that one at a time is much better.

Q: Previous bikes?

A: First motor was a BMW K75S. It was with this machine that I started my involvement with bicycle racing. It was a 1991 I think. I rode it out to Laguna Seca to do a Reg Pridmore Class. That ride included hail, rain and the tail end of a hurricane. It also was my first long "push" with a ride from Flagstaff to Boulder CO in one long day. It's spline disintegrated and needing a working motor I bought a new Honda Blackbird. The Blackbird was a great ride and outfitted with Givi bags I rode it 57,000 miles until it's wiring burned I think a result of a faulty voltage regulator. That was followed by an Aprilia Futura until Pro Italia in Glendale stopped servicing them. A Ducati ST3 with competition pipes followed. This was just too loud for use in bicycle races. So my return to BMW with a red R1200RT, that lasted some 87,000 miles and was followed by a K1200GT. The GT lasted some 30,000 miles to be replaced by the Ducati mentioned above. There were just too many recurring problems with the BMWs and they seemed to be getting progressively bigger and heavier.



Q: Best bike owned ever?

A: The best motor I've ever owned seems inevitably to be the one I ride currently until I lose confidence in it and move on. The Ducati has some 7,700 miles and has performed exceptionally well. Before the trade in I rode the GT 7,000 with no fuel gauge, unacceptable in my view.

Q: How many miles do you rack up annually as a marshal?

A: I've been putting on about 20,000 miles a year for the past 6 or 7 years.

Q: How did you get involved in marshaling?

A: I started helping with bicycle races on the moto in 1997 after selling my interest in the company that published a bicycle racing journal (VeloNews). I rode out to Boise ID to follow the Women's Challenge Stage Race, then the largest women's race in the world. They needed someone to carry a photographer and that was the start. I really enjoyed to journey to and from the events. The events I helped with

just started to increase in number. I became a licensed official with USACycling sometime in the early 2000's.

Q: What aspect of the marshalling do you enjoy the most?

A: I started racing bicycles in Central Park, NYC in 1985 and have enjoyed involvement with the sport ever since. Doing moto support or refereeing combines my interests. I also very much enjoy the journey to and from events and have crossed the country to do it.

Q: What's the next event on your schedule?

A: The next event I've on my schedule is Levi Leipheimer's Gran Fondo at the end of September. This is a charity ride that attracts on the order of 10,000 riders.

Q: Would you ever consider being a marshal for the Tour de France?

A: Marshaling at the Tour de France would be super but is most unlikely for a number of reasons.

Thank you David.



Editorial



Adam surprised us with a visit from Florida last weekend.

As I sit here, typing away on the keyboard, I can't help but think of what just happened. Our youngest child is all grown up and flew the coop today. Tomorrow, she will embark on her new adventure. Pamela will start her Navy boot camp and eventually will be an Aircrew member. We have, for the most part, let the kids decide what they want to do with their lives. Pamela was accepted to several universities but opted for the military because college was "what they expected you to do." The local colleges were "high school part 2." Adam is currently in the Navy as an IT specialist. She calls him a button pusher. I suppose I am too right now.

It seems just yesterday my fellow club members gave me a hard time for taking the boys camping at the Pinnacles and leaving mother and child at home. For the last time, she told me to go so she could have some quiet time. I remember going on a 10 mile hike and carrying Adam nine of those ten miles.

I guess Liza and I have come full circle. When we were first married (30 years ago) we went grocery shopping for two in my truck. This last Sunday, we picked up some lunch stuff for the week and realized we were shopping for two again and headed home in my... truck.

Enjoy every moment.



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In case you didn't know...

- With only two races left in the season, Marco Melandri (BMW) trails Max Biaggi (Aprilia) by 9.5 points. On the manufacturers' side, BMW is 7.5 points adrift of Aprilia. They have their work cut out.
- Jorge Lorenzo is only 13 points ahead of compatriot, Dani Pedrosa with six races to go. Pedrosa has been on fire. Casey Stoner hopes to be back by Phillip Island, his home race in Australia. Nicky Hayden is expected to back in the saddle for this weekend's race in Misano, Italy.
- And most importantly, **the club meeting is Monday, September 17th at Cody's Café.**

Jim Rowley, Editor.

Have a story to tell? Want to set up an upcoming event?

Send it to me at mapenginc@hotmail.com.



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